

Julie

I hope Sotterley will continue to fill role as 18th century plantation house with some spill over in 19th. They need to stay away from 17th and prehistoric and ovet another farm museum like us but certainly ongoing farming operations need to be interpreted as well as function oxx of the outbuildings on farm, why they were needed when built and how they are obsolete now. goal 3 is a ~~xx~~ good one as it is broader then ~~xx~~ museum specific and reflects the fact that sotterly does serve as a meeting place role in the region, for meetings not at all ~~linked~~ linked to the historic nature of the museum.

Good luck on serving on the pla-ning committee. Keep me informed as to its progress. Thanks.

Wayne

nov 6, 1991

# Sotterley

April 1, 1991

Dear Julie:

I am sorry about the mess-up on the meeting. Anyway the first part was taken up in discussing the "3rd" version of the Master Plan Agenda (enclosed) and the fact that by the next meeting, scheduled for May 17th, the outline for the Master Plan has to be fixed.

The second part of the meeting was spent going through the mansion.

Best,

Henry

THE SOTTERLEY  
MASTER PLAN  
AN AGENDA

The mission of the Sotterley Mansion Foundation is to research, interpret, exhibit, and preserve the buildings, gardens, and grounds

as a living architectural and historical monument to three centuries of plantation life on the Southern Maryland littoral of the Chesapeake tidewater, and

as an exemplar of the cultural history of Maryland, in particular as to its occupants and their place in the development of America's democratic principles and constitutional institutions

for the education, appreciation, use, benefit, and enjoyment of the public at large.

A **Master Plan** for Sotterley must be a detailed framework, within which specific **goals** can be pursued, five, ten, or twenty-five years down the line, to the end of maximizing Sotterley's usefulness to the public good.

A broad framework is encapsulated by the **mission**, but it does not particularize the **goals** as to specifics nor take into account options as to approach, priority, and stress.

What follows is an initial attempt to isolate these **goals** and thereby create a working agenda on which to build Sotterley's **Master Plan**.

These **goals** are:

1. To institute a program of continuing research:
  - a. To define Sotterley's architectural importance historically, aesthetically, and culturally.
  - b. To determine Sotterley's cultural history as a reflection of the interaction between the occupants, and their extended families, and their socio-economic and political environment.
  - c. To analyze Sotterley's evolution as a three hundred year old self-sustaining agricultural organism and its interplay with the surrounding agrarian community.
  - d. To ascertain Sotterley's maritime position as a "port of entry", an entrepot, and a trade center in the 18th and 19th Centuries, and, thereby, its economic influence on the Chesapeake tidewater and Maryland.
2. To establish a program to use this research:
  - a. To rehabilitate, replicate, and preserve the buildings, their exterior and interior, and the gardens and grounds.
  - b. To edify the public as to Sotterley's place and relative importance in the continuum of history.
  - c. To educate students of all ages as to the significance of the cultural microcosm represented by Sotterley.
  - d. To define the primary foci for an interpretive program relative to Sotterley's audiences.
3. To develop by using these programs, a structure of practical limits as to the allowable uses of Sotterley. The rationale for any use of Sotterley must be the balance between **mission** and economic necessity.

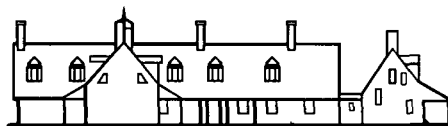
4. To formulate a financial plan by using these programs, and their limits, as leverages to raise money through admissions, events, functions, donations, and private and governmental grants, leading to the eventual fiscal stabilization of Sotterley through an endowment fund, a capital fund, and a realistic annual operating budget.

In constructing a **Master Plan** for Sotterley some or all of the following, to one degree or another, must be kept in mind:

1. Sotterley is unique as an almost 300 year old still operating plantation open to the public, and as a plantation with its main house the only frame 18th Century building of its kind in the United States.
2.
  - a. In the 18th Century the proprietary family, part of the Chesapeake aristocracy, played a significant role in the formation of the republic and its democratic institutions.
  - b. In the 19th Century it was the bastion of plantation economic and political conservatism, and at the same time an educational anachronism, and as such played an interesting role pre and post Civil War in Southern Maryland.
  - c. In the 20th Century it became the vacation home, after extensive and intelligent restoration, to a prominent New York family, thereby preserving the plantation and its place in the agrarian tidewater community.
3. Sotterley is one of the few tidewater plantations left with an 18th Century slave quarters building still standing and accessible to the public, and to this day with direct ties to the Afro-American community.
4. To the public Sotterley must reflect this diversity of 250 years of plantation life, thus:
  - a. The exteriors of the buildings, where possible and appropriate, must be rehabilitated to eliminate any late 20th Century construction or decorative stopgaps. In some instances replication or even elimination of buildings should be considered in order to correctly maintain the ambience of the plantation environment.
  - b. The interiors of the main house and some of the other buildings must maintain the lived in, generational look. For the orderly preservation of these interiors, collections and conservation

policies must be established. These policies, in turn, will attract donations of furnishings and furniture of historical and cultural value to Sotterley, thereby facilitating interpretation.

- c. The exteriors and interiors of the buildings must reflect Sotterley's long and interesting socio-economic and political history, and give the visitor not only an intellectual and visual sense of its past, but a tactile one as well.
- d. The gardens and grounds must, on the one hand, reflect the practical needs of plantation life and, on the other hand, horticulturally educate and please and above all act as an extension of the general cultural ambience.



## The Sotterley Foundation

373 8474

To: Carolyn  
Larney

November 21, 1997

Dear Julie,

We are readying next year's calendar for publication. This note is to confirm that you have agreed to do presentations/tours at Sotterley at 12:00 and 3:00 on June 14 and August 1. You indicated you would be working with Kirk. These presentations are for our general visitors and should be between 30 and 40 minutes.

We are in need of a title for your presentations or tours and a brief description. Please fill out the lower half of this form and **return to me by December 15**. Do call me or Judy O'Brien if you have any questions.

We are very grateful, your efforts will enrich our program offerings and add immeasurably to our visitor's experience at Sotterley. Thank you.

PRESENTER: Julia A. King and Kirk Ranzetta

I will do a Tour X Presentation X

Date(s): June 14

August 1

Title: ~~Please~~ The Sotterley's Architecture in Context

Description:

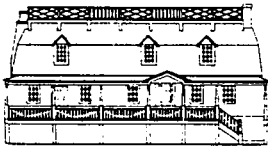
We will conduct this presentation. This event  
offers a walking tour focused on the architecture  
of the planter's house and the slave house at  
Sotterley. A brief slide presentation places the  
two buildings in their local context. Participants  
should wear flat shoes and ~~clothes~~ ~~skirts~~ slacks.  
Part of the tour will examine the large crawl space  
on Sotterley's second floor.

P. O. Box 67 • Hollywood, Maryland 20636

Tel: 301-373-2280 • Fax: 301-373-8474

sotterly@eagle1.eaglenet.com

MARYLAND  
HISTORICAL



TRUST

Jefferson Patterson Park  
and Museum

*project*  
William Donald Schaefer  
Governor

Jacqueline H. Rogers  
Secretary, DHCD

August 2, 1990

Mr. Henry Bonner  
Sotterley Mansion  
Hollywood, MD 20636

Dear Mr. Bonner,

I enjoyed meeting you last week and discussing the new directions in which Sotterley is moving. I am delighted that you have asked me to participate in this project. Within the next month, I will prepare and send to you a preliminary "Scope of Work" for the archaeology at Sotterley. I have spoken to Jeannette Fausz about this, and she has agreed to provide me information.

Enclosed is a section from the Archives of Maryland (Vol. VIII) with a few sections on Henry Bonner. It appears that not only is St. Mary's County a close-knit place in space, but in time, as well! Are you any relation?

Sincerely,

Julia A. King  
Regional Archaeologist  
for Southern Maryland

JAK/dcm  
Enclosure

*Maryland*

Department of Housing and Community Development  
Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, 10515 Mackall Road, St. Leonard, Maryland 20685 (301) 586-0050



TO: Henry Bonner, Director of Sotterley  
FROM: Fred Fausz, Historical Consultant  
RE: Subsequent Phases of Sotterley Studies  
9 October 1990

With the College-funded Phase I of Sotterley Research completed, we need to consider what additional research is needed and how that data will be used for specific objectives and new initiatives in the next year.

I. Sotterley Studies--Phase II. While Sotterley Research--Phase I resulted in the comprehensive collection of significant 18th- and 19th-century documentary materials available in the Chesapeake Region, Phase II will be more focused on seeking answers to specific questions of interpretation that may be found in selected printed and documentary sources, wherever located. Phase II will include:

- A. Visiting or corresponding with archives and repositories in Great Britain to obtain important information on the Bowles family and Sotterley's formative years in the late 17th-/early 18th-centuries.
- B. Collecting family papers (or copies) relating to the Satterlee ownership of Sotterley since 1910.
- C. Completing an intensive and extensive search of all printed, secondary sources for references to Sotterley and its place in the history of the colonial Chesapeake region.
- D. Thoroughly integrating and organizing all historical, archaeological, and architectural research collected over the years, including recent reports and transcribed oral history interviews.

II. Sotterley Studies--Phase III. Once Phase II is sufficiently advanced (with the data adequately organized and made easily accessible), I propose to undertake an exhaustive reinterpretation of "Sotterley In Three Centuries," which will result in:

- A. *A Detailed Narrative and Chronology* (est. 50 pages) to serve as the standard, on-site reference guide for docents, visiting researchers, and administrative staff (who will find it useful for conducting newspaper interviews and planning public activities that coincide with historic events at Sotterley).
- B. *New Docent Training Materials*, including the writing of a *Brief Handbook* based on the *Detailed Narrative* (stressing the salient facts of Tour interpretation and possible reevaluation of Tour strategies); a *Slide-Show* for docent and/or visitor use; and *In-Person Training Sessions* with docents, volunteers, and administrators.
- C. *A Museum Shop Survey*, which will provide recommendations for selecting, obtaining, and merchandising items for sale that are historically accurate and appropriate, as well as profitable.

Respectfully submitted,

**"Sotterley" papers on loan to Dr. Judy O'Brien (sent out from J. King 1/30/98)**

**Marks, K.**

**Potter, K.**

**Fox, M.**

**McLaughlin, K.**

**Scott, G.**

**Zitnick, J.**

**Wrenn, R.**

**Lindquist, M.**

**Detamore, B.**

**Bracken, N.**

**Capuano, B.**

**Fairall, K.**

**Abdon, S.**

**Hudgins, K.**

**McLean, B./Vale, H.**

**Moore, M.**

**Snader, E.**



## Seventh Judicial Circuit of Maryland

COURT HOUSE

P. O. Box 859

LEONARDTOWN, MARYLAND 20650

JOHN HANSON BRISCOE  
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

(301) 478-4585

April 17, 1998

Dr. Julia King  
P. O. Box 213  
St. Mary's City, MD 20686

Dear Julie:

It is with great sadness that I accept your resignation from The Board of Trustees of the Sotterley Foundation. Few know Sotterley as intimately as do you, and few care more deeply for its welfare, so I count your decision to leave as a profound loss. We have all relied on your insight and your dedication to guide the Foundation through some very difficult times, and you deserve and you have my deepest respect.

I know that your involvement at Sotterley extends back many years prior to your tenure on the Board, and I am pleased that Sotterley will continue to benefit from your talents and experience through your continued work on the Research and Education Committee and the Restoration Committee.

On behalf of your fellow members of the Board of Trustees, I offer you our deepest thanks and appreciation for all that you have accomplished as a Sotterley Trustee. It has truly been a pleasure to serve with you.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN HANSON BRISCOE  
President



## The Sotterley Foundation

June 10, 1997

Ms. Jessica Neuwirth  
801 Calvert Town Drive  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Dear Jessica:

As you know, I am absolutely delighted that you have agreed to take on the extra archaeology at the slave cabin. It is so very critical that we move forward with the restoration as soon as possible, and I consider your willingness to address this project in light of your busy schedule a great kindness. I send you the documents relating to the extra archaeology required at the slave quarter of which we spoke.

In reference to Rodney Little's letter, Jeff Lees is going to revise his recommendation and limit the disturbed area to a two foot wide area around the perimeter. I have talked with Julie, and she will revise her site plan to reflect this change.

Also note that MHT requests the current report's figures be upgraded. If you don't mind, please factor this into the project in terms of time and costs.

As soon as you are in a position to do so, please provide me with the work and crew schedule and your fee. If you wouldn't mind, please itemize the costs, as I will include the figures in the application for emergency grant funds which I will submit to the Trust. We will however, be moving forward on this project as soon as you are ready, and I will pay project costs from other sources, to be reimbursed to Sotterley by the Trust if indeed emergency funds are awarded.

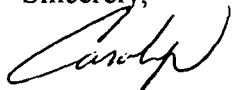
Speaking of which, I also enclose the pages from the MHT application for emergency funds that require your attention. As we discussed, it would be of great help if you could pencil in answers to the technical questions. I will take your responses and format them appropriately into the body of the application. Beyond accuracy, I do not believe a great deal of effort needs to be put into the responses. Do whatever you can in the limited amount of time you have available for me.

Also, for planning purposes, could you please provide me with your time frame for the site survey project? I know we discussed it briefly, but we want to make sure we can take advantage of the survey programmmically, and scheduling questions keep popping up, so a breakdown will be most helpful. I think I mentioned that Orlando would like to be in on the site selection process. Julie mentioned Ed Channey, and of course, Beth

Cole will be involved. Anyone else? Do you still want to schedule such a meeting sometime in late July?

Once again, thanks for your deep commitment to Sotterley. We value all that you do for us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Carolyn', written in dark ink.

Carolyn Laray  
Executive Director

cc: J King

JKFYI

STATE OF MARYLAND - DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

JEFFERSON PATTERSON PARK & MUSEUM

MARYLAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
CONSERVATION LABORATORY

MEMORANDUM

September 19, 1996

TO: Beth Cole  
FROM: Julie King *Julie King*  
RE: Sotterley Drainage Project

Beth, on Thursday, September 19, 1996, I made a field check at Sotterley for the Sotterley Drainage Project. Carolyn Laray and I reviewed the plans prepared by D.H. Steffens and visited the project area. Some places within the project area had standing water, although it has not rained here for several days. The drainage system appears to be needed.

I excavated four shovel tests along the proposed drainage ditch. The soils consisted of a dark yellowish brown clayey topsoil/plowzone of varying thickness overlying a clayey subsoil. Although I did not screen the soil, I carefully picked through the fill in search of cultural material. I observed no artifacts, nor brick or charcoal flecks.

I consulted several historic maps in our files and did not see any structures or other features in this area that would be impacted by the proposed activities. Two early 20th century structures are located nearby but will not be affected by the work.

It is my opinion that the proposed area for the project has a low probability for containing significant archaeological resources. However, because the project area is contained within the Sotterley property, and because Sotterley is listed on the National Register, I recommend that, during grading, a representative from the Southern Maryland Regional Center be available on site to monitor grading activities.

Beth, please note that I am not independent with respect to Sotterley, and I serve on Sotterley's Board.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 410/586-8551.

JK:dcm

cc: Carolyn Laray

MARYLAND  
HISTORICAL



TRUST

Office of Preservation Services

Parris N. Glendening, Governor  
Patricia J. Payne, Secretary

June 13, 1996

Ms. Carolyn Laray  
Executive Director  
Sotterly Mansion Foundation, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67  
Hollywood, Maryland 20636

Re: Sotterly Slave Quarter  
FY 1996 MHT Capital Grant  
St. Mary's County, MD

*Carolyn*

Dear Ms. Laray:

Thank you for sending us the Deed of Gift form, signed by the Sotterly Mansion Foundation, for the collection of material remains recovered from the recent archeological investigations conducted for the above-referenced project. Enclosed please find a copy of the fully executed Deed of Gift, accepted by the Director of the Maryland Historical Trust, for your records.

It is a pleasure for the Trust to provide permanent curation of the artifacts from this important historic property. If you have questions or require further assistance, please call me at (410) 514-763. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

*Beth Cole*

Elizabeth J. Cole  
Administrator  
Archeological Services

EJC/Enclosure

cc: Dr. Julia King  
Mr. Ron Orr



EQUAL HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITY

Division of Historical and Cultural Programs  
100 Community Place • Crownsville, Maryland 21032 • (410) 514- 7631

*The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) pledges to foster  
the letter and spirit of the law for achieving equal housing opportunity in Maryland.*

61-

**DEED OF GIFT  
TO THE  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST**

By these presents I(we) irrevocably and unconditionally give, transfer, and assign to the Maryland Historical Trust and any successor or assign with similar aims and objectives, by way of gift, all right, title, and interests (including all copyright, trademark and related interests and all rights to copyright), permanently and forever, in, to, and associated with the object(s) described below. These objects have been delivered to the premises of the Maryland Historical Trust on or before the date of this Deed of Gift. I(we) affirm that I(we) own said object(s) and that, to the best of my(our) knowledge, I(we) have good and complete right, title, and interest (including all transferred copyright, trademark and related interests) in the object to give, and that right, title and interest is free and clear of all liens, encumbrances, and restrictions.

The Maryland Historical Trust acknowledges that the Donor intends to request future long-term loan of certain objects from the collection for exhibit purposes. The Trust agrees to process such loan requests in accordance with its outgoing loan procedures. The Trust will not unreasonably deny or condition the Donor's requests for loans.

I(we) wish that the gift be identified to the public and in the records of the Museum as:

Gift of Sutterley Mansion Foundation, Inc  
(PO Box 167  
Hollywood MO 20636)

Date: May 31, 1996

Donor: [Signature]  
Name/Address

Witness: [Signature]

By: Executive Director  
Its

The Maryland Historical Trust hereby acknowledges receipt of the above Deed of Gift, and accepts the Donor's gift of the object(s) described in the Deed of Gift.

Date: June 6, 1996

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Witness: [Signature]

By: [Signature]  
Director

Delivery complete

Material Remains recovered  
from the archaeological  
investigations at the Sutterley Stone Quarries Co





## The Sotterley Mansion Foundation

May 15, 1996

Mr. John O'Rourke  
PO Box 397  
Solomons, MD 20688

Dear John:

It was a pleasure to meet with you today. I am very pleased that we appear so close to finally putting this project together.

As per our discussion, I will now draft the sole-source justification letter to MHT, to be sent upon receipt of a copy of your resume. Once we have gained their approval for this approach, I would like to have you come down to go over the structure in detail, and provide me with your recommendations and a project estimate. I liked your idea of perhaps combining the second day of your on-site investigation with a meeting with Michael Trostel, the archaeologist, and the MHT rep (and perhaps Ray Cannetti) at which time we could begin to develop a restoration program acceptable to MHT.

I was quite happy to know that although the Williamsburg report was not strong on technical details, and it will not be until the time of your inspection that we know much more, you feel the project should fall within the budget parameters. I am also gratified that you are comfortable with the on-site problem solving approach and the working relationship proposed by Michael.

I think we agree that given your very tight schedule and your numerous other commitments, our best approach is to begin the project in October as per the MHT grant requirements, with a cessation of work in the winter at which time the structure will be appropriately protected. Work would then be restarted in the spring of '97 according to a schedule that conforms to your prior commitments.

I look forward to receiving your resume/background materials so that I can submit the sole source request, and we can jump the next hurdle. I enclose the core portion of the archaeology report for your review--there was a great deal of contextual material I did not include.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Laray  
Executive Director

cc: ~~J. King~~  
M. Trostel

To: M Whitson  
J King

From: C Laray

Date: 4/9/96

Re: Easement on Historic Core

J. Patterson III & MRS.

APR 11 1996

Date

*Jeff PD.*

We need to indicate to MHT whether or not we desire to make any changes to/ the easement relating to the slave quarter restoration and bond bill, or whether we will accept as is.

Upon review, please call me to discuss any concerns. If necessary, we will schedule a meeting with MHT personnel.

I have three areas of concern:

1. The historic core buildings are not in good shape although the easement requires that we keep them that way. Should we propose language that will protect us from unreasonable future demands in light of the massiveness of the need coupled with our foreseeable continuing lack of funds? Up to this point, MHT has been pretty understanding of our circumstances when they do the annual reviews under the 30 year easement, but that attitude could change.
2. We do intend to "materially disturb the surface" (see p.6, (N)) in the near future, as we will be moving topsoil to fill in low spots. We will also be reconfiguring a few paths and building low terraced earth berms. This is all in an effort to address at lowest possible cost, Sotterley's horrendous drainage problems. Should we seek a clause that will give us some latitude to address drainage without engendering \$20,000 worth of archaeology?
3. Archaeology in general. Julie, will you make sure the stipulations seem reasonable?

*review process  
not nec. reg arch*

*go review now add  
to easement language*

*easement to  
protect  
do understand*



## The Sotterley Mansion Foundation

March 5, 1996

Mr. J. Rodney Little  
Director/State Historic Preservation Officer  
Maryland Historical Trust  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032

Dear Mr. Little:

Thank you for your letter and comments regarding the archaeological investigation conducted as part of the slave quarter restoration project and the attendant draft, **Archaeological Investigations at the Sotterley Mansion Slave Cabin, St. Mary's County, Maryland.** Ms. Neuwirth has made all suggested changes as per your comments, and I will send you the final report in the near future. We too, feel that the data will be of invaluable assistance to us in our restoration efforts, and that the investigation has contributed significantly to our understanding of the African-American presence in Tidewater Maryland.

Thank you as well for your offer of assistance for further archaeological investigations relating to the restoration should it be determined that such investigations are necessary. As you know, The Sotterley Mansion Foundation intends to continue to execute this project to the highest preservation standards and your offer to help us do so is deeply appreciated.

As per your inquiry as to a repository for the material remains and project records, Sotterley Mansion Foundation would be pleased to consider MHT's offer to provide permanent curation. Perhaps you might have a draft agreement sent to me.

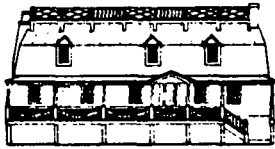
We at Sotterley Mansion Foundation look forward to our continuing collaboration with MHT to restore and preserve this significant piece of Maryland's history.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Laray  
Executive Director

cc: J. Neuwirth  
K. Mahood  
J. King

MARYLAND  
HISTORICAL



TRUST

Parris N. Glendening, Governor  
Patricia J. Payne, Secretary

February 8, 1996

Office of Preservation Services

Ms. Carolyn Laray  
Executive Director  
The Sotterley Mansion Foundation  
P.O. Box 67  
Hollywood, Maryland 20636

Re: Sotterley Slave Quarter  
FY1996 MHT Capital Grant  
St. Mary's County, Maryland

  
Dear Ms. Laray:

On 24 January 1996, the Trust received a copy of the following draft report on the archeological investigations conducted for the above-referenced project: *Archeological Investigations at the Sotterley Mansion Slave Cabin, St. Mary's County, Maryland*. The report was prepared by Ms. Jessica Neuwirth, the study's principal investigator.

The archeological research was undertaken to examine specific architectural issues regarding the quarter's construction and chronology, as well as to identify any resources that may be impacted by proposed restoration activities. Since Trust grant funds are assisting with the proposed restoration of the Sotterley Slave Quarter, the Trust will be reviewing the project to evaluate its effects on archeological resources. Thus, the Trust must review the draft report to ensure that it meets the *Standards and Guidelines for Archeological Investigations in Maryland* (Shaffer and Cole 1994) and determine the need for further work. We appreciate the Foundation's efforts and initiative in performing the archeological investigations early in project planning.

The report presents thorough documentation on the investigation's goals, methods, results, interpretations, and recommendations. The draft is well written and it generally meets the reporting requirements of the standards referenced above. The attachment lists our specific comments on the draft itself. We ask the author to address these issues in the preparation of the final report.

The archeological testing demonstrated that the Sotterley Slave Quarters contains intact, stratified archeological deposits and features related to its inhabitants and use during the 19th and 20th centuries. These deposits exist within the quarters as well as in the surrounding yard. The research provided data to address specific architectural questions and



EQUAL HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITY

Division of Historical and Cultural Programs  
100 Community Place • Crownsville, Maryland 21032 • (410) 514-\_\_\_\_\_

*The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) pledges to foster the letter and spirit of the law for achieving equal housing opportunity in Maryland.*

Ms. Carolyn Laray  
February 8, 1996  
Page 2

contributed information regarding the slave and tenant occupations. This data will help to provide a more accurate restoration and interpretation of the quarters. In our opinion, the identified archeological resources associated with the Sotterley Slave Quarter are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource to the National Register listed Sotterley property.

Extreme care must be taken during the restoration work to ensure the preservation of Sotterley's significant and irreplaceable archeological record. Every effort should be made to minimize and avoid ground disturbing actions which could destroy important archeological remains. We encourage you to share the draft report with the project's architect, so the archeological information is available during preparation of project plans. Until we have received preliminary plans, it is not possible to determine whether or not additional archeological investigations will be warranted as part of the project. If further testing or mitigation is needed, we help you to acquire the necessary means to accomplish the archeological work.

We look forward to receiving a copy of the final report, when available. These investigations have made an important contribution to our knowledge and understanding of slave/tenant lifeways at Sotterley, as well as within the larger southern Maryland region.

If you have questions or require further assistance, please call Ms. Beth Cole (for archeology) at (410) 514-7631 or Ms. Kate Mahood (for grant issues) at (410) 514-7635. Thank you for your cooperation and interest in Sotterley's important archeological heritage.

Sincerely,



J. Rodney Little  
Director/State Historic  
Preservation Officer

JRL/EJC/  
9600213

cc: Ms. Kate Mahood  
Ms. Jessica Neuwirth  
Dr. Julia King  
Mrs. Samuel M. Bailey, Jr.  
Ms. Nancy Rogers

**MHT COMMENTS ON DRAFT ARCHEOLOGY REPORT  
SOTTERLEY SLAVE QUARTERS**

- 1) The title page must contain the name and address of the author, the name and address of the project sponsor, and include the official archeological site number (18ST54).
- 2) The report should correctly note the property's official recordation status: Sotterley is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and it is recorded in the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties as historic site SM-7 and archeological site 18ST54.
- 3) The report should note the nature of the Trust's involvement in this project. The Trust is providing capital grant funding to assist with the proposed restoration of the quarter. In addition, the Trust holds an historic preservation easement on Sotterley. The archeological investigations were conducted to fulfill compliance with both grant and easement requirements. Thus, the statement on page 36 that *this project will not be reviewed by the Maryland Historical Trust* is inaccurate.
- 4) The report should name the repository, if known, that will curate the material remains and associated records generated by the project, or state that the Sotterley Mansion Foundation will select an appropriate repository in consultation with the Trust. The Trust would be happy to provide permanent curation for the collections from this significant historic property, if desired. The Trust currently curates collections from other properties on which we hold easements, with the understanding that the property owner may borrow items for legitimate exhibit, research, or educational purposes. We would welcome the opportunity to further discuss this issue with the Foundation.
- 5) The Summary and Recommendations should note that the investigations have demonstrated that the quarter's archeological component is clearly eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource to the Sotterley plantation.
- 6) The Artifact Catalog should include the official lot numbers assigned to the artifacts.
- 7) The report should include a resume or statement of professional qualifications for the author, in an appendix.
- 8) An appendix should contain an updated archeological inventory form for 18ST54, which reflects the results of the recent investigations. The original site form should be submitted to Ms. Maureen Kavanagh at the Trust.
- 9) Finally, a completed NADB - Reports Recording Form should be submitted with the final report.